

the rules were suspended and the Senate bill, as amended, was passed.

The title of the Senate bill was amended so as to read:

"A bill to designate the United States courthouse located at 223 Broad Avenue in Albany, Georgia, as the 'C.B. King United States Courthouse'."

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LATOURETTE. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H. Con. Res. 278; H. Con. Res. 279, as amended; H. Con. Res. 281; H.R. 1359; H.R. 1605, as amended; H.R. 4052; and S. 1567, as amended, the measures just considered by the House.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCERNING PARTICIPATION OF EXTREMIST FPO IN GOVERNMENT OF AUSTRIA

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 429) expressing the sense of the House of Representatives concerning the participation of the extremist FPO in the Government of Austria.

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 429

Whereas the extremist, racist, and xenophobic FPO has entered into a coalition agreement and is participating in the new Government of Austria;

Whereas the long-time-leader of the FPO, Joerg Haider, praised Adolf Hitler's "sound employment policy" and called Waffen SS veterans "decent people with character who stuck to their belief through the strongest headwinds";

Whereas Joerg Haider and his party in the recent election campaign decried the "over-foreignization" of Austria, which was an expression that was coined and used by Nazi leaders;

Whereas at a time when the European Union, the United States, and other nations are working actively to discourage ethnic hatred in the republics of the former Yugoslavia and elsewhere, the FPO shamelessly appealed to racist sentiment and based its political campaign on racism and xenophobia;

Whereas in the past Joerg Haider and his party have expressed fundamental disagreement with the principles of freedom, democracy, and respect for human rights, which are the foundation of a modern, democratic, open, and tolerant Europe and which Austria, as a member of the European Union, is committed by treaty to uphold; and

Whereas the inclusion of the FPO in the Austrian governing coalition serves to legitimize and encourage the extreme right in other countries of Europe: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes the right of the Austrian people to express their political views

through a democratic election, but also reaffirms the right and the obligation of the United States House of Representatives to express its opposition to the anti-democratic, racist and xenophobic views that have been expressed by Joerg Haider and other leaders of the FPO, and, because of these publicly expressed views, to state its opposition to the party's participation in the Austrian Government;

(2) condemns the insulting, racist, and xenophobic statements which have been made over many years by Joerg Haider, the long-time leader of the FPO, and by other leaders of the party;

(3) expresses profound regret and dismay that the FPO will play a major role in the new Government of Austria;

(4) commends the leaders of the European Union, the fourteen other member states of the European Union, Canada, Norway, and other countries which have expressed their serious concerns regarding the participation of the FPO in the Government of Austria;

(5) calls upon the President, the Secretary of State, and other officials and agencies of the United States Government to emphasize to Austrian Government officials our concern about the inclusion of any party in the Government of Austria, including the FPO, that has been associated with xenophobic, racist policies, and statements supportive of Nazi-era programs;

(6) urges Members of Congress to use any meetings with ministers and other political leaders of the Government of Austria to express concern for Austria's continued adherence to democratic standards and full respect for human rights;

(7) calls upon the Secretary of State to continue to scrutinize the policies of the new Government of Austria and to be prepared to take additional measures if circumstances so warrant; and

(8) directs the Clerk of the House to send a copy of this resolution to the Secretary of State with the request that it be forwarded to the President of Austria.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BALLENGER) and the gentleman from Florida (Mr. WEXLER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. BALLENGER).

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

(Mr. BALLENGER asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BALLENGER. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 429 was adopted by a voice vote by the Committee on International Relations. It places on the record the concern of the House about the inclusion of an extremist party in the government of Austria, formed at the beginning of the year.

I believe this is a fair and a balanced measure and I ask my colleagues to adopt it and also, since the gentleman from New York (Mr. GILMAN) is not here, I would insert in the RECORD his statement.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, H. Res. 429 places the House on record regarding our concerns over the participation of the extremist Freedom Party, the FPO, in the government of Austria that was recently formed. The former leader and founder of the FPO, Joerg

Haider has propelled the FPO into the mainstream of Austrian politics by appealing to some of the frustrations of Austria's people. He has also capitalized on a large measure of dissatisfaction with the political status quo that was represented by Austria's traditional political establishment among the Austrian electorate.

Nevertheless, I join with the gentleman from California, Mr. LANTOS and my colleagues in condemning many of the statements that Joerg Haider has made, his demagogic attempts to stir up resentment of Austria's large immigrant community, and his apparent sympathies for Austria's tragic Nazi past.

This measure is balanced. It is aimed at the government of Austria and not at the people of Austria with many of whom I have enjoyed a close and enduring friendship. While we are expressing our concern, we are also withholding our final judgment with regard to the direction that the new government of Austria will pursue. We are calling upon our own government to make clear our concerns and to monitor Austrian policies so that if any further action on our part becomes necessary, we will be able to pursue it without delay.

Accordingly, I invite the support of my colleagues for H. Res. 429 so that Austrian officials will fully understand the depth of our concern.

Mr. WEXLER. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of House Resolution 429, expressing the serious concerns of the United States Congress over the participation of the extremist Freedom Party in the Government of Austria. Unfortunately, the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS), who had every intention of leading this debate, was delayed in flight.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. LANTOS) for introducing this timely resolution. Its content echoes the sentiment of many in the international community who are deeply disturbed by events taking place in Austria. I know many of my colleagues were shocked and dismayed on February 4, 2000, when we learned that despite massive international opposition, Thomas Klestil, Austria's President and leader of the People's Party, swore in a new government that included the Freedom Party, a xenophobic, right-wing organization, led by Mr. Haider, a dangerous extremist known for praising aspects of the Nazi era.

The participation of the Freedom Party in the new Austrian government is deeply disturbing to all who remember recent European history. Mr. Haider has made several statements praising Adolf Hitler's orderly employment policies in lauding veterans of the Waffen SS as decent people of good character who stuck to their belief through the strongest headwinds.

Haider and the FPO campaigned on a policy of racism and xenophobia, urging an immediate halt to the immigration in Austria due to the over foreignization of Austria. Haider also waged a campaign to expel all foreign workers.

In 1997, he called for one-third of all foreigners to be sent home within 2